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ACCOUNT

OF THE *A. 885.*

METHOD and SUCCESS

OF *883*

IN OCULATING

THE

S M A L L - P O X,

IN

Boston in New-England.

In a LETTER from a Gentleman there, to
his Friend in London.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. Peele at Lock's-Head in Pater-
noster Row. MDCCXXII.

ACCOUNT

OF THE
MONEY PAID

IN
THE

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T O

Sir *HANS SLOANE*,
President.

And to the Rest of the COLLEGE
of PHYSICIANS.

GENTLEMEN,



Receiv'd the following Account of the Method and Success of inoculating the *Small-Pox* in *New-England*, from a Person there, of great Learning and Probity, who desir'd his Name might be conceal'd; having no other View, than a charitable Inclination of doing Good to the World. It seem'd to him (as I must freely own it does to me) a Matter of great Importance to the Welfare of Mankind; and if you, Gentlemen, shall be in the same Sentiment, I have no doubt, but it will find your Favour and Encouragement.

Altho' this Practice of ingrafting the *Small-Pox* has been us'd from Time immemorial among the *Circassians*, and for many Years past in the *Levant*, yet it is a new Thing in these Parts of *Europe*, and still more so in *America*: And as all new Discoveries, however rational in themselves, and beneficial to Mankind, are receiv'd at first with Opposition, none has met with greater than this in *New-England*. A vast Number of honest People quarrel'd with it upon religious Scruples; and they were strongly supported by the Physicians of the Place, for Reasons of a very different Kind, which it is not at all necessary to mention. But as Truth is mighty, and will at last prevail, the great and surprizing Success of this Practice, has convinc'd every reasonable Adversary, and silenc'd the most obstinate. It has been try'd on all Ages, and both Sexes; on every Constitution, the Robust, and the Infirmit; on the most contrary Complexions, the Blacks, and the Whites; and in each extreme Season of the Year, the Summer and the Winter Solstice. Nor has it fail'd in any one Instance:

The DEDICATION.

stance: Not a single Person has dy'd, or had the *Second Fever*, or, indeed, any considerable Distress. On the contrary, the Patients have been so easy, during the whole Course of the Distemper, that it was hard to persuade them that they were really Patients. I must also observe, that there was no antecedent Preparation of their Bodies; but they have these two Advantages, which are sufficient: One, that they know when they receive the Distemper, (which those who are infected in the common Way can't be sensible of) and from that Time use a regular Diet; the other, that there is such a plentiful Discharge at the Incision-Sores, as prevents any fatal Consequences; which is demonstrable from this Observation, that the Eruptions are more or less, in Proportion to those Discharges. I am inclin'd to think, that the Ease and Security which attend this Operation, may be entirely accounted for from these two Principles, without having Recourse to any other Reasons. But as this is a speculative Point, You, Gentlemen, are the best Judges of it; and to your great Learning and Knowledge it is submitted. I hope some of your Body, will give the World an Account of the late Inoculation of Mr. Col's Children, who underwent this Operation upon the Relation I gave my worthy Friend, their Father, and his ingenious Lady, of what had been done in *New-England*. They were visited by 15 Gentlemen of the Faculty, who were Witnesses how exactly it answer'd in every Respect. The Pocks came out well, appear'd fair, round, and yellow; and regular with respect to Time, like the true, natural, distinct Kind; and the Children are perfectly well recover'd. It is also particularly to be remark'd, that they were never affected with the usual Disorders, and bad Consequences, that attend this very loathsome and dangerous Disease.

I AM afraid I have been too prolix, and therefore shall add no more, but that I am, with all imaginable Respect,

GENTLEMEN,

*Middle-Temple,
Feb. 23, 1721.*

Your most obedient Servant,

JER. DUMMER.



A N
ACCOUNT
 OF THE
METHOD and SUCCESS
 OF
Inoculating the *Small-Pox.*

S I R,



Gentleman well known in the City of *Boston*, had a *Garamantee* Servant, who first gave him an Account, of a Method frequently used in *Africa*, and which had been practis'd on himself, to procure an *easy Small-Pox*, and a perpetual Security of neither *dying* by it, nor being again infected with it.

Afterwards he successively met with a Number of *Africans*; who all, in *their* plain Way, without any Combination, or Correspondence, agreed in *one Story*, viz. that in their Country (where they use to die like *Rotten Sheep*, when

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the *Small-Pox* gets among them) it is now become a *common Thing* to cut a Place or two in their Skin, sometimes one Place, and sometimes another, and put in a little of the Matter of the *Small-Pox*; after which, they, in a few Days, grow a *little Sick*, and a few *Small-Pox* break out, and by-and-by they dry away; and that no Body ever dy'd of doing this, nor ever had the *Small-Pox* after it: Which last Point is confirm'd by their constant Attendance on the Sick in our Families, without receiving the Infection; and, so considerable is the Number of these in our Neighbourhood, that he had as evident Proof of the *Practice, Safety, and Success* of this Operation, as we have that there are *Lions* in *Africa*.

After this, he heard it affirm'd, 'That it is no unusual Thing for our Ships on the Coast of *Guinea*, when they ship their Slaves, to find out by Enquiry which of the Slaves have not yet had the *Small-Pox*; and so carry them a-shore, in this Way to give it to them, that the poor Creatures may sell for a better Price; where they are often (inhumanly enough) to be dispos'd of.

Some Years after he had receiv'd his first *African* Informations, he found publish'd in our *Philosophical Transactions*, divers Communications from the *Levant*, which, to our Surprise, agreed with what he had from *Africa*.

First, That very valuable Person, Dr. *Emanuel Timonius*, writes from *Constantinople*, in December

cember 1713, That the Practice of procuring the *Small-Pox*, by a Sort of *Inoculation*, had been introduc'd among the *Constantinopolitans*, from the more Eastern and Northern *Asiatics*, for about forty Years. At the first (he says) People were cautious and afraid; but the *happy Success* on Thousands of Persons, for (then) eight Years past, had put it out of all *Suspicion*. His Account is, That they who have this *Inoculation* practis'd upon them, are subject to very *slight Symptoms*, and sensible of but very little Sickness; nor do what *Small-Pox* they have, ever leave any *Scars* or *Pits* behind them. They make Choice of as healthy a young Person as they can find, that has the *Small-Pox* of the best Sort upon him; on the *Twelfth* or *Thirteenth* Day of his *Decumbiture*, with a *Needle* they prick some of the larger *Pustules*, and press out the Matter coming from them into some *convenient Vessel*, which is to be stop't *close*, and kept *warm*, in the Bosom of the Person that carries it to the intended Patient. This *Person* ought rather to be some *other*, than he who visited the *sick Chamber* for it; lest he should carry the Infection in the *common Way*, which might prove dangerous. The Patient is to have several *small Wounds* made with a *Needle*, or *Lancet*, in two or more Places of the *Skin*, (the best Places are the Muscles of the *Arm*) and immediately let there be dropt out a *Drop* of the Matter in the Glass on each of the Places, and mix'd with the Blood that is issuing out. The Wound should be cover'd with some little *Concave Vessel*, and bound over, that the Matter may not be rubb'd off by the Garments,

for a few Hours. And now, let the Patient (having *Fillets* on the Wounds) keep House, and be careful of his *Diet*. The Custom at *Constantinople*, is to abstain from *Flesh* and *Broth* for twenty Days, or more; and they chuse to perform the Operation, either in the Beginning of the *Winter*, or the *Spring*: The *Small Pox* begins to appear sooner in some than in others; and with lesser Symptoms in some than in others; but *with happy Success* in all.

Commonly ten or twenty *Pustules* break out; here and there one has no more than two or three, few have an *Hundred*: There are some in whom no *Pustules* rise, but in the Places where the *Incision* was made: And here the *Tubercles* will be purulent; yet even these have never had the *Small-Pox* afterwards, tho' they have cohabited with Persons that had it on them. No small Quantity of Matter will run, for several Days, from the Places of the *Incision*; but the *Pocks* arising from the Operation, are dry'd up in a little while, and fall of, partly in thin Skins, and partly vanishing by an insensible Wasting: The Matter being hardly so thick a *Pus* as in the common *Small-Pox*; tho', at the Places of the *Incision*, 'tis more of the common Sort; and there the *Scars* will always remain, as Remembrancers of it. If an *Apoffem* should break out in any, (which is more frequent in *Infants*) yet there is no Fear; for 'tis healed safely by Suppuration: In fine, this learned Person assures us, that he never yet observ'd any *bad Consequence* of the Practice, which now so many come into.

After

After this, we find an honourable Person, whose Name is *Jacobus Pylarinus*, the *Venetian* Consul at *Smyrna*, (who was, I suppose, wholly a Stranger to what had been written by the former) publishing what is entitled, *Nova, ac Tuta Variolas Excitandi per Transplantationem Methodus*.

This Gentleman observes, that this wonderful Invention, was first, à plebeia rudiq. Gente, in *Humani Generis adjumentum* & in *savissimi Morbi solamen detecta*, found out, not by the learned Sons of *Erudition*, but by a mean, coarse, rude Sort of People, for the *Succour* of *Mankind*, under and against one of the most cruel Diseases in the World. It was rarely, if ever, used among People of *Quality*, till after the Beginning of the present Century. A noble *Grecian* happening then to try it with happy Success upon four little Sons in his own Family. *Mirum quam multas Nobiliorum Familias ad Imitationem traxit*. It was wonderful to see how many People of *Fashion* presently follow'd the Example; so that at this Day (he says) every one does, without any *Hesitation*, and with all the *Security* imaginable, practice the *Transplantation*, except here and there a few *Cowards*, that are afraid of their *Shadows*. Indeed, the *Turks*, who ascribe all Events to *Fate*, for that Reason come but slowly into it.

The Instructions given by *Pylarinus* about the Operation, differ little from those of *Timonius*,

Timonius, and so there is no Need of repeating them.

He adds, That some do the Business with no more than *one Incision*.

The Ferment comes into Action sooner in some than in others; usually 'tis on the *seventh Day*, sometimes on the *first*.

The *Symptoms* prove *remiss*, or *intense*, according to the various Constitutions of the Bodies.

The *Small-Pox* proves of the *distinct Sort*, and there are but few of them.

In some few, the *Incision* has produc'd no *Small Pox* at all; but the Persons have afterwards been taken in the *common Way*, and handled with it like other People.

The *Wounds* made for the *Incision*, prove often very sore; and with some they degenerate into *Apotheims*; nay, they swell sometimes, and rise and fall, and rise again. There has also happen'd on this Occasion, an *Abscess* with Suppuration, in some Emunctory of the Body; but this is a rare Occurrence.

In fine, *Pylarinus* affirms, it was hardly ever known, that there was any ill Consequence of this Transplantation. *Quinimò ritè rectèq; tractata, & in Corporibus per peritum Medicum aptè preparatis, certissimam promittit Salutem.* The Business being well, and wisely manag'd, and the Body being, by a skilful Physician, well

well prepar'd, you may depend upon it. (He says) in an ordinary Way, there can be *nothing but a good Issue of it.*

After these Communications, and the Thing *establish'd in the Mouths of two such Witnesses*, we met with some ingenious Travellers, who knew so much of the Matter, as very much to confirm the Ideas we had entertain'd of it.

Were one of an ordinary Capacity (for no better is he that is now writing) willing to try a little how far *Philosophy* might countenance the Matter: One might think, the venomous *Miasms* of the *Small Pox*, entering into the Body, in the Way of *Inspiration*, are immediately taken into the Blood of the *Lungs*; and, I pray, how many *Pulses* pass, before the very *Heart* is pierc'd with them? And within how many more they are convey'd into all the *Bowels*, is easily apprehended, by all who know any Thing how the *Circulation of the Blood* is carry'd on; at the same Time the *Bowels* themselves are infeebl'd, and their Tone impair'd, by the *Venom* that is thus insinuated. Behold the Enemy at once got into the very Center of the Citadel; and the invaded Party must be very strong indeed, if it can struggle with him, and after all entirely expel and conquer him: Whereas the *Miasms* of the *Small-Pox*, being admitted in the Way of *Inoculation*, their Approaches are made only by the *Out-Works* of the *Citadel*, and at a considerable Distance from it. The Enemy, 'tis true, gets in so far,

far, as to make some *Spoil*; even so much as to satisfy him, and leave no *prey* in the Body of the Patient, for him ever afterwards to seize upon; but the *vital Powers* are kept so clear from his Assaults, that they can manage the *Combat* bravely; and tho' not without a *Surrender* of those Humours in the *Blood*, which the Invader makes a Seizure on, they oblige him to *march out the same Way he came in*, and are sure of never being troubled with him any more. If the *Vermicular Hypothesis* of the *Small-Pox* be receiv'd with us, (and it be, as many now think, an *animaculated Business*) there is less of *Metaphor* in our Account, than may be at first imagin'd.

But to what Purpose is all this *Jargon*? And of what Significancy are most of our *Speculations*? EXPERIENCE! EXPERIENCE! 'tis to THEE that the Matter must be referr'd after all; a few *Empericks* here, are worth all our *Dogmatists*.

About three Months ago, the *Small Pox* broke in upon the City of *Boston*, where it very much appear'd with the *Terrors of Death* to the Inhabitants. On this Occasion, there was address'd a Letter to the *Physicians* of the City, with an Account of the Communications from the illustrious *Timonius*, and *Pylarinus*, entreating them to meet for a *Consultation* upon it, *Whether the new Practice might be introduc'd and countenanc'd among us?* The Writer was perswaded, that herein he did but his Duty; and express'd no other than the *Charity of a Christian*, and a proper Concernment and Com-
passion

passion for his poor Neighbours, whom he saw likely to die by Hundreds about him. His Address found (for what Reasons I know not, or am not willing to know) an *indecent Reception* with our Physicians; all the Return he had, was a Story which they spread about the Town and Country, that he had given an *unfaithful Account* of the Matter to them, tho' they had it in the printed *Philosophical Transactions* before their Eyes to justify it. Then the Story was turn'd, that either Dr. *Halley* had suppress'd Part of the true Account, or *Timonius* and *Pylarinus* were themselves fallacious: Nevertheless, one who had been a more *successful Practitioner* than most of them, and had, with a singular Dexterity in his Practice, perform'd Things not attempted by any of them, (namely, Mr. *Zabdiel Boylston*) was prompted, by his enterprizing Genius, to begin the Operation. He thought it most generous to make his first Beginning upon his *own Family*; and here, to make not only two *Slaves*, but a beloved *Son* of his own, (about five or six Years of Age) the Subjects of it: He made the *Transplantation* into them with two or three *Incisions* a-piece, taking the *Leg* as well as the *Arm*, (and in one of them the *Neck*) for the Places of them: He did not use the *Precaution* of sending for the fermenting *Pus* by a third Person: He staid not for what some would have thought more *proper Seasons*; but he did it in the very *Heat* of *Midsummer*, which, with us, is hot enough: He did nothing at all to *prepare* their Bodies; and he chose to leave them to the *Liberties*, which Persons infected with the *Small-Pox* in the

common Way, do generally take, before their *Decumbiture*, without any Detriment to them.

Under all these Disadvantages, did this Gentleman make his Experiments; but *they succeeded to Admiration*. About the seventh Day the Patients began to grow Feverish, and out of Order; on the third and fourth Day from their falling ill, his Child's Fever grew to an Height, beyond his Expectation, which (from the *Novelty* of the Business) did, for a few Hours, considerably terrify him: He had Recourse to the common Remedies of Blisters, and gave the Child a *Vomit*, and presently all the Fright was over: The *Eruption* began; and from the Time of its doing so with the Child, and with the two *Slaves*, there was no Occasion for any *other Medicine*; they were easy from this Time; their *Pustules* (which were, tho' not many, yet somewhat more for Number, than what is usual in the *Levant*) grew, and fell off, as they do in the *Levant*; and their *Sores*, which had an agreeable Discharge at them, seasonably dry'd up of themselves; and they all presently became as hail and strong as ever they were in their Lives.

It is incredible, what a Storm was rais'd, and very much of it principally owing to some of our enrag'd *Physicians*, on this Occasion.

The Gentleman was threaten'd with an *Indictment for Felony*; (tho', in your Country, they

they talk of no such Thing, for them who carry their Children into *infected Chambers*; on Purpose to make them take the *Infection* after the common Way in their Minority) and Words were given out, which had a Tendency to raise the *Mob* upon him.

The *select Men* (an Order of Men, who are the *Overseers* and *Managers* of the *Town-Affairs*) associating with some of the *Juslices*, order'd him to appear before them, and severely reprimanded him for spreading the *Small-Pox*; (which was already spreading in the *common Way*) and with high Menaces warned him against proceeding with his Practice any farther. At the same Time, the *Practitioners* of the Town publish'd a Declaration, ' That the *Inoculation* of the *Small-Pox* had prov'd the Death of many Persons, soon after the Operation; and brought Distempers on many others, which have, in the End, prov'd fatal to them; which (they said) appear'd by numerous Instances: *That* the natural Tendency of infusing such malignant Filth in the Mass of Blood, is to corrupt and putrify it, and lay a Foundation for many dangerous Diseases: *That* the Operation tends to spread and continue the Infection in a Place, longer than it might otherwise be; and *that* the continuing the Operation among us, is likely to prove of most dangerous Consequence.

There appear'd little to support these *Paradoxes*; but only an *Oath* of an obscure *Frenchman*, (a little known for his *virtuous Morals*)

that about five and twenty Years ago, there were thirteen Soldiers in the *French Army*, upon whom this Operation was perform'd; but four dy'd of it; and when they were open'd, horrid Things were found in them; six recover'd with abundance of Trouble, being seiz'd with Tumours, and large Inflammations; the other three found no Effect of it upon them. He swore likewise, that in *Flanders*, twenty Years ago, a Captain, under his Cure for the *Small-Pox*, told him, that ten Years before this, he had been *inoculated five or six Times*, without that cursed Invention's taking Effect upon him; and he was so violently seiz'd, that he had several Ulcers on his Body, especially one on his *Arm*, which was incurable. He swore likewise, that at the *Battle of Almanza* in *Spain*, two *Muscovite* Soldiers had the Operation perform'd on them; and that one recover'd, and the other felt no Impression; but six Weeks after, a Frenzy seiz'd him, and he was swell'd all over his Body, and thought to be poison'd; but his Body being open'd, his Lungs were found ulcerated, which the Physicians concluded was the Effect of the *Inoculation*. Things which Master *Apella* himself would scarce imagine to be credible! This notable Testimony was corroborated with one or two more, which amounted to little more than this, That a Man in the *Mediterranean*, many Years ago, was told by *somebody*, that *somebody* told him, that *somebody* heard, that the Doctors in the *Archipelago* warned People against *Inoculation* of the *Small-Pox*, as a dangerous Practice.

At the same Time, there was publish'd in our *News Letter*, a bitter Satyr upon Dr. *Boylston* for his late Action; and his putting this far fetch'd, and (it was pleas'd to say) not well vouch'd Method, into Practice. They compar'd it to the Infusion of the Venom of Serpents, or the Oil of Tobacco, by Injection, immediately into the Mass of Blood; and affirm'd, that it would produce only an eruptive Fever; but nothing Analogous to the Small-Pox; (tho' they inveigh'd against the Gentleman for spreading the Small-Pox in what he did) and that the Sufferers might, notwithstanding, receive the Small-Pox afterwards in the ordinary Way: They also asserted, that the Thing had been among the Learned universally known in *England*, above twenty Years; (and more than twice seven Years before, the Secretary of the ROYAL SOCIETY first recommended it as a new Thing, inviting the Thoughts of the Curious in the *English* Nation upon it) but it had never been practis'd, because it was deem'd wicked and felonious; and then they referr'd the CASE to the Divines, which was express'd in these emphatical Terms: *How the trusting more the groundless Machinations of Men, than to our Preserver in the ordinary Course of Nature, may be consistent with that Devotion and Subjection we owe to the All-wise Providence of God Almighty.* Six of our Ministers thought themselves bound in Duty to bestow a publick Rebuke upon this indecent Satyr; and answer'd the CASE not much to the Satisfaction of some

some that offer'd it. But the Rage of the People, was, with a very powerful *Pharmacy*, boild up to a very great Extremity; and for the more effectual enraging of them, there was a strange Use made of a Passage, that one must have had the *Sense of three Men* in him, to have made such a Constriction of it. *Pylarinus* had said, *That sometimes an Abscess happen'd in some Emissory of the Body; which yet (he said) was a rare Occurrence.* Now, tho' our Gentlemen knew, that this is a Thing which daily occurs, among People recovering from the *Small-Pox* in the ordinary Way; (and we had never seen any Thing of it in our incisions Way) yet they rais'd a horrible Cry of *Raw Head and Bloody-Bones*, that the *Inoculation* of the *Small-Pox* would bring in the *Plague* among us. It must needs be so, because *Plague Sores* were often in some *Emissory of the Body*; and so *Boston* was going at once to be another *Marseilles*; and they had the *Plague* at *Constantinople*, since *Inoculation* had been admitted there. Our People were scar'd (I cannot say) out of their Wits. But the Gentleman having succeeded so well in his first *Experiments*, and being perswaded, that if God would please to make him the happy Instrument of saving the precious *Lives* of his poor Neighbours, it would make amends for all the Obloquies which his envious *Brethren* might raise upon him: He took little Notice of the *Inhibition* that had been given him. Divers pious and worthy People consider'd how dreadfully the *Small-Pox* handled many of their Neighbours,

bours, and how much the *sixth Commandment* order'd them the Use of Means to preserve and prolong their Lives. They consider'd also, that by managing and governing the Approach of the *Small-Pox*, in the Way of *Inoculation*, they had a Method of securing their *Lives* from the Dangers of it; and that there never arriv'd unto us a *Medicine* of so great a *Recommendation*; it having been used upon so many *Thousands*, and never one known to have miscarry'd under it. They therefore apply'd themselves to Dr. *Boylston*, with Desires to come under the Operation; and he charitably gratify'd them in the Thing desir'd; tho' the Objects were most of them, either so *Old*, or so *Weak*, that they would have been the *last* that one would have chosen for it; and one would have apprehended no little Hazard of the *Event*: But they all got *well* and *soon* through it, and so much beyond their Expectation, that they zealously gave Thanks to God, for leading them into it; and seriously profess'd to their Neighbours, that they had rather suffer the Operation *twice* every Year, than *once* to undergo the *Small Pox*, as it is most commonly *suffer'd*, tho' they should be sure of surviving it.

The *Fever* in these also, was, for a few Hours before the Eruption, more Intense; and the *Pustules* after it, were more numerous, than what is usual in the *Levant*; but in a few Days, and much sooner than what is commonly done, where they have the *Small-Pox* the common Way, they recover'd their

their entire Strength, and were, on all Accounts, as well as they were before ; and the Sores of the *Incision* also heal'd of themselves, rather sooner than they wish'd for. Whereupon, they publish'd a *Declaration* in our *Gazette*, that they might stop *false Reports*, and satisfy the Minds of sober People, in the Midst of the *Ephesian* Clamours now prevailing ; for truly, while these Things were doing, the Town was fill'd with Iniquity, to a Degree which good Men could not observe, without being more than a little griev'd at it.

I must say it, I never saw the Devil so let loose upon any Occasion. A lying Spirit was gone forth at such a Rate, that there was no believing any Thing one heard. If the inoculated Patients were a little sickish, or had a *Vomit* given them, it was immediately reported, That they were at the point of *Death*, or actually dead. While the Patients lay blessing and praising Almighty God, for shewing them this easy Way to escape a formidable Enemy, it was confidently reported, That they bitterly repented of what had been done upon them, and would not, upon any Terms, be brought into it, if it were to do again. When the Patients had their incisions Places, either actually and perfectly heal'd in some, or within a Day or two of it in others, it was confidently reported, That they were perishing under terrible Ulcers, and had their Arms or Legs rotting off.

These,

These, and the like Things, were asserted with such impudent Confidence, even by such as liv'd in the nearest Neighbourhood, that one was almost ready to fear a Beating, if they durst offer to question them. Then the People would assert, that here were Persons on the very Spot, who underwent the *Inoculation in England* a great many Years ago; but afterwards had the *Small-Pox* in the common Way; and, they said, they would bring these Persons to us. A few Minutes after, they would assert, that it was never practis'd in *England*; but there was an *Act of Parliament* which made it *Felony*; and, they said, they would produce the Act to us. But never any Patient had so many *Pustules* of the *Small-Pox*, as there were *Lies* now daily told, and spread among our deluded People.

That which much added to the Misery, was, that the People who made the loudest Cry, (who most commonly were what we may not improperly call *of the confluent Sort*, and such also as were past the Dangers of the *Small-Pox* themselves) had a very *Satanic Fury* acting them.

They were like the *possess'd People* in the Gospel, exceeding fierce; insomuch, that one could scarce pass by the Way where they were to be met withal. Their common Way was to rail and rave, and wish *Death*, or other Mischiefs, to them that practis'd, or favour'd this *devilish Invention*. To inflame them in their Transports, and harden them in their Violences and Exclamations, they pretended *Religion* on their

Side; and charg'd all that were not so, with denying and renouncing the *divine Providence*, and I know not how many more *Abominations*; yea, with *going to the Devil*, and the *God of Ekron*. And how strangely they treated the most meritorious Ministers of the Gospel, who did not come into their *Frenzies*, I leave unmention'd. *Father forgive them.*

The View of these Things caus'd some considerate Persons to think, whether the *Angel of Death* promising himself a great *Feast* in this miserable City, it might not put him that had the *Power of Death*, that is, the *Devil*, into a great *Rage*, to see coming in among us, a *Method* of rescuing many *Morsels* from him. They were sure, the *Lying*, and the *Malice*, and the *Outrage*, that manag'd, and carry'd on the *Opposition* to it, must needs be of a *Satanic Original*; there could be nothing more contrary to the Spirit of a *meek JESUS*.

But the *Opposers* could not hinder the *Pro-felytes* from increasing. Dr. *Boylstone* has his *Patients* multiplying; and, instead of any one miscarrying, they come off easier, with less *Fever*, and fewer *Pustules*, than those that led the *Van* in his Experiments. He grows more expert every Day; and many of the most vehement Opponents, daily come over to an *Approbation* of the Practice; and People that see their Neighbours, either dying in a tragical Manner about them every Day, or, at best, having their *Loins fill'd with a loathsome Disease*, won't permit themselves to be talk'd out of their *Lives*, by pitiful *Impertinencies*.

Of what my ingenious Friend hitherto does, and finds, you will now accept this brief Account.

He makes usually *two Incisions*, (tho' sometimes but one) in the two *Arms* (or an *Arm*, or a *Leg*) of his Patients; and then he puts into them a little Bit of *Lint*, which he has dipp'd into the Quitter, that he had newly fetch'd in a little *Bottle*, warm from the Pustules of one who has the *Small-Pox* of a good Sort, now turning upon him. This he covers with a little Plaister of *Diachylon*, to keep it close for two or three Days in its Operation there.

In his first Practice, upon his removing the little *Pledget*, the Sores of the *Incision* would sometimes *beal up*, and anon swell and break forth of themselves, when the *Fever* came to be over: But he thought afterwards, that by keeping the Sores *constantly open*, in the Way we do an ordinary *Issue*, the *Fever*, and other Symptoms, presently to come on, are sensibly *moderated*. He allows the Patients, for a while, to go *abroad* about their Business, if the *Weather* be good, and there be no Danger of getting any Cold; but he directs them to regulate their *Diet*, and, particularly to retrench a little their *Carnivorous* Inclinations: And yet he does little this Way, because he finds no great Advantage by thus enfeebling of them.

About the *seventh* Day, (and sometimes a little before, and sometimes a little after) the

Patients grow dull, and feel a *feverish* Disposition, and grumbling Pains of the *Head* and *Back*, as in the Invasions of the *Small-Pox* 'tis usual. In some, the *Symptoms* are very *Remiss*, in others they are more *Intense*. But the Doctor governs the *Fever* at his Pleasure, in the Ways that every Body now treats a common putrid *Fever*.

Sometimes on the third or fourth Day, the *Fever* seems, for a few Hours, a little rampant; but then he gives a gentle *Vomit*, and afterwards a *Blister*, and the *Eruption* begins without fail immediately.

If you expect now a *long* Story about the Managements in the *Progress* of the Distemper, I shall disappoint you; for *here's the End* on't; there's *no more* to be done; there's no farther *Illness*; no farther *Trouble*; the *Storm* is over; there is not one Atom of that *second Fever*, which, in the *Small-Pox*, is what People generally die of. The Patients have no more to do, but lie *still*, and keep *warm*, and entertain their Friends, and study how to glorify the God of their Lives.

The *Pustules* in some, have been very few, perhaps twenty, or thirty, or so; in others, they have risen to *several Hundreds*; yea, few have come off without *several Hundreds*: In this Point, that is to say, the Number of the *Pustules*, we differ from the *Levant* considerably; and are yet at a Loss for a Reason of it; but in as few Days, as those of the ordinary *distinct Small-Pox*, they are gone.

The

The Sores continue running somewhat longer, (and longer in some than in others) even some Days after their going abroad again. But they dry up of themselves, *Tutò, Cito, ac Jucundè.*

None of the *inoculated* Patients have yet had any of those Boils, which People, recover'd of the *Small-Pox* in the *ordinary Way*, are commonly vexed withal. If there had been one Instance of them, our Practitioners would have taught the People to cry, *the Plague! the Plague!* upon it.

Thus Dr. *Boylston* goes on with his Practice hitherto successfully. There is one Difficulty, indeed, which very much incumbers him. He has employ'd the *Inoculation* upon one Person, who, having been just before tending two Patients that were under it, had very strongly receiv'd the Infection in the *common Way*. The Person was in a few Hours taken down, and prov'd very full of the *Small-Pox*, of the *confluent Sort*, and very narrowly escap'd with Life; to the Preservation whereof, it was yet thought, that the running of the *incisive Sores* might a little contribute.

The Miscarriage of this Person would have been, by the *Mob* as aforesaid, improv'd as a sufficient Subject for their Exclamations. 'Tis therefore no little Distress to the Doctor, how they that are *already strongly infected*, may be easily distinguish'd from those who are not so, in a Place where the Distemper is become *Epidemical*;

demical; for the Condition of every one, will not always allow them to perform the *Quarantine* that would be necessary for it. How he will get over this Difficulty, 'tis yet such *early Days* with us, that I cannot inform you.

Our Practitioners, and the People under their Influences, having had their *other Prejudices* confuted by the happy *Experience* of the Neighbourhood, now chiefly insist upon this, *Well, two or three Years hence you will see the dreadful Effects of this wicked Practice; you'll see what happens to the People that are under it.* And the sad Things that are to happen, when the *Lark-time* arrives, are now to terrify us. They are so unreasonable, that one had as good speak *Reason* to a *Post*, or argue with a *Whirlwind*. Were a *Borarius* alive again, what would he say to such *unreasonable Persons*. A crazy old Man, that is near *Seventy*, having lately enjoy'd the Benefit of *Inoculation*, 'tis thought, that if he should happen to die one Minute before *Ninety*, these People (if not come to their Wits before) will say, *This Inoculation kill'd him.*

It may, perhaps, a little divert you, to see the Humour on't.

A *Negro*, who pretends he can just remember, that he was *inoculated*, when he was a *Pickaninny*, in his own Country, perhaps thirty Years ago, (and was here under Cure for the *French Pox*, a little while ago) lately grew indispos'd, and was laid in a Room where
another

another *Negro* lay, full of the *Small-Pox* upon him. At first it was confidently affirm'd, that this Fellow had also the *Small-Pox* broke out full upon him; and tho', till now, the mention of a *Negro* (or of any Thing from *Africa*) was hiss'd at, yet now, all on a sudden, a *Negro* was become good Authority, and poor *Inoculation* was like to be knock'd on the Head.

But after the Fellow's lying many Days in the infected Chamber, it is impossible to produce the least Eruption of the *Small-Pox* upon him. What is now to be done? Why, they find something of a *Swelling* under his Arm; and some of our D——s cry out, that this is the *Small-Pox*, in the Form, you must Note, of a large *Tumour*; and this *pestilential Form* is also owing to his *Inoculation* in his Infancy.

But among all the *Oppressions*, under which this *new Practice* is a Sufferer among us, the chief comes from a *Scruple of Conscience*, which, no doubt, in many People, whose *Hearts* are better than their *Heads*, may be sincere and serious.

They plead, That *the Whole have no Need of a Physician*; and that it is not lawful for me to make myself sick, when I am well; and bring a *Sickness* on myself; no, tho' it be to prevent a greater *Sickness*. 'Tis to no Purpose to tell them, that they cavil against the Use of all preventing *Physick*; and that they confute themselves as often as they take a *Vomit*, or use a *Blister*;

Blister; and much more, if they undergo *Salivation* (a Thing a thousand Times worse than the *Dispunction* which is now in Controversy) to prevent a Malady which may be fear'd, but is not actually come upon them; and that they are not *the whole*, while they have the Fuel of the *Small-Pox* lodg'd in them; or are in that *Anxiety of Mind* about it, which is, indeed, an *evil Disease*.

They plead, *That what is now done, is a Thing learnt from the Heathens*; and it is not lawful for Christians to learn the *Way of the Heathen*. 'Tis to no Purpose to tell them, that *Hippocrates*, and *Galen* were *Heathen*; and that the Gentleman who invented the blundering (but strangely useful) Composition, call'd *Venice-Treacle*, was an *Heathen*, who was Physician to no better a Man than a *Nero*: And from whom is it that we have our *Mithridate*? And how many noble *Specificks* have we learnt from our *Indians*? And from whom did they learn to smoke *Tobacco*; or drink *Tea* and *Coffee*?

In fine, (tho' there is *no End* of their Follies) while they have been taught the Clamour, *That we take up this new Thing from the Turks*: [A Mistake; for it comes not from *such*, but from the *Greeks*] Their main Cavil against it, were more fit for the Mouths of *Turks*, and is the very Thing that keeps the *Turks* from coming much into it: That God has decreed *when*, and *how* we shall *dye*, and for us to pretend a Remedy that won't fail to
save

Save our Lives, and secure us from *Death* by the *Small-Pox*, is to take the *Work of God* out of his Hands. And how do we know, that God will send the *Small-Pox* upon us at all, since there will be some that will escape it, where-ever it comes? 'Tis to no Purpose to attempt their *Instruction*; for if one does, they will quickly, in exprefs Terms, tell him, *You shall never convince me*. But that they may convince us, that it is *Religion* which inclines and fixes them, 'tis well if we don't hear them fall to *wishing of Miseries* to them that shall try this new *Practice*, and railing bitterly against the most venerable Servants of God in the Land, and giving all the Signs of a *Satanic Energy* upon them. Alas! *pudet hæc opprobria*.

To quiet the Minds of People that would think soberly, the Doctor stated the *Case of Conscience* in these Terms,

'Almighty God, in his great Mercy to Mankind, has taught us a *Remedy* to be used, when the Dangers of the *Small Pox* distress us; upon the Use of which *Medicine*, they shall, in an ordinary Way, be sure to have it not so severely as in the other Way, and consequently, not to be in such Danger of dying by this dreadful Distemper; as also to be deliver'd from the terrible Circumstances which many of them, who recover of this Distemper, do suffer from it. Whether a Christian may not employ this *Medicine*, (let the Matter of it be what it will) and humbly give Thanks to God for his good
D Providence,

* *Providence*, in discovering it to a miserable World; and humbly look up to his good
 * *Providence* (as we do in the Use of any other
 * *Medicine*) for the Success of it?

And he thought it Answer enough to say upon it, *It may seem strange, that any Wise Christian cannot answer it.*

Sir, The Reason of my thus giving you the Story of the Way to *save the Lives* of People, and *keep them easy* too, from one of the most formidable *Diseases* in the World, thus far practis'd and prosper'd among us, is, because I imagine so considerate and charitable a Mind as yours, may do something to bring it into Consideration, *How far the Thing may be encourag'd in our Nation*, where this Distemper sometimes makes terrible Ravages, and where there are so many Persons of great *Ranks* and *Hopes*, that would be very thankful for some *Assurance of their Lives*, in a Point wherein they will always be *hanging in doubt*, till the *Small-Pox* be over with them.

And then, the Reason of my also giving you the Story of the *Opposition* which the Thing has here met withal, and reporting such *foolish Things* as might be better bury'd in Oblivion, which yet I do without exposing the *Name* of any Person, as if I had been vindictively inclin'd, I might have done; 'tis because it's a thousand to one, that the Thing may meet with the same *Opposition* (for the *Corruptions* and *Weaknesses* of People are the same) on your Side of the Water; and the Knowledge of what has occur'd

